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Capital Reading

Dulles Tells of CIA Craft **But Buttons Lip on Secrets**

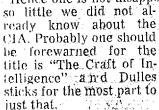
Reviewed by Chalmers M. Roberts

At national news bureau chief of The Washington Post, Roberts has long followed, the Government's intelligence operations. During World War II he served in Military Intelligence.

THE CRAFT OF INTELLIGENCE. By Allen Dulles. Harper & Row. 277 pp. \$4.95.

THERE IS NO NICER FELLOW in Washington than the tweedy, pipe smoking longtime boss of the Central Intelligence Agency, Allen W. Dulles. Nor is there anyone from whom it has been harder to worm a secret.

Hence one is not disappointed, only unhappy, that Dulles has told



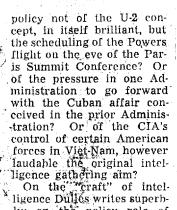
Dulles writes well and fascinatingly on the history of espionage and intelligence from Sir Francis Walsing ham to Wild Bill Donovan and John McCone: from Richard Sorge to Oleg Pentovsky. But in all the Modern cases, from the CIA's role in Iran to the U-2, he more often teases than reyears. There is a hint of a boast about Penkovsky, for example, but no revelation as to this recently executed Soviet citizen's importance in telling the CIA inner Rus-

sian secrets.

Quite probably all this is as it should be. Dulles goes to great lengths to defend secrecy in espionage and other forms of intelligence gathering. He is disturbed by what we publish, espe-cially in technical journals. and the records of Congressional hearings, Dulles' view of the American public's "need to know" is a highly limited one and he would joist on the American press the British D notice system and something akin to its Official "Secrets Act. Here one must disagree completely.

The public's right to know about its servants is the crux of the CIA problem, for example, in the current South Vietnamese affair.

about the CIA, Dulles denies flatly that the agency has "made foreign policy." But what of the effect on



Dulles

ly; on the policy role of CIA we are left only with

his assertions.

The policy and press issues aside—and it is not easy to put them aside— "The Craft of Intelligence" is one of the most fascinating books of our times, however tantalizing it often is. Certainly no one who wants to understand the full The central problem here, ramifications of the Cold as in the Bay of Pigs fiasco, War can afford to miss it. and on other occasions, is As an intelligence agency, that the CIA has gone too the CIA has indeed earned far into para-military opera- some fancy marks. The bad tions, strayed too far from marks most often have intelligence gathering alone frome when policy makers in a chapter on "myths" failed to act correctly on the CIA's intelligence or when the agency itself has strayed into the policy realm.